

QUARTERLY ISSUES PROGRAM

LIST FOR

WWLP – SPRINGFIELD, MA

Issues Program List Herein
Covers the Period
OCTOBER 1, 2009 through DECEMBER 31, 2009

The following is WWLP programming addressing Crime during the 4th quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/03/09 9am : 30

A Ludlow family is mourning the death of their daughter following a horrific crash in Springfield. 17 year old Alicia Rodrigues died when the car she was in lost control on Allen St, hitting a telephone poll then flipping several times. Sergeant Thomas Long told 22News the driver, 18-year old Jake Trombley, of Springfield was allegedly speeding and under the influence of alcohol.

News 10/05/09 5am : 30

A man is recovering in the hospital this morning after being stabbed in Springfield. Springfield Captain Eugene Dexheimer told 22news that a fight broke out outside the Atlantic Club on Liberty Street around two this morning. The male victim was stabbed in his left thigh; he is being treated at Baystate Medical Center.

News 10/06/09 11pm : 30

Some un-neighborly conduct has shocked a community in the eastern part of the state. Police say two neighbors were arguing over dumping leaves when one of them pulled out a gun and fired. A fight about whose dumping leaves in whose yard ended with one of the men being shot. That defendant, Christopher Leonard, appeared in Quincy District Court this morning. Police say Leonard's wife invited John Rota to her home in Randolph Friday night. The two were apparently having a beer around the fire-pit in the back yard, when Leonard came out of his home and began arguing with his neighbor about the dumping of leaves. After the argument became physical, the defendant punched him in the face. The victim responded by crushing a beer can and throwing it at the defendant. They were approximately eight feet away from each other. At that point, the defendant pulled a gun from his waistband and shot the victim in the abdomen. That's when prosecutors say Leonard ran into the house and called 911. When police arrived, he was reportedly pressing a sweatshirt over Rota's wounds. Neighbors who know both men say they've never heard them argue before. Christopher Leonard was released on \$20,000 bail following his arraignment for armed assault with intent to murder. Rota was taken to Boston Medical Center and later released.

News 10/06/09 12pm : 30

Belchertown police say a Bondsville man will face three charges including attempted murder for a robbery at a Belchertown liquor store. Belchertown Police Chief Francis Fox told 22News they believe the man on the security video is 25 year-old John Paul Hurley. In the

video the masked man allegedly held a knife to the throat of a female customer. Chief Fox told 22News Hurley is held at the Hampden County Correctional Center in Ludlow on other charges.

News **10/07/09** **5am** **: 30**

Detectives are investigating a murder in South Holyoke. A 22 year old was shot several times near South Bridge Street. Captain Arthur Monfette told 22News that 22 year old Raymond Diaz was shot just before 6:30 last night. Captain Monfette said police have some idea about a motive but they aren't releasing that information right now. He also told 22News that there were about one hundred people in the area at the time, but no one is talking to police. It isn't clear if the victim was living in Holyoke at the time of his death.

News **10/07/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Smith College Public safety officials are looking for help in identifying a suspect who allegedly sexually assaulted a student on the school's Northampton campus Sunday morning. Police have now released a sketch of their suspect. According to the school's website, the student was attacked between 3 and 6:30 in the morning in the living room of Chapin House. She said her attacker was of average build, about 5 feet 6 inches tall and about 28 years old. He has a light beard and mustache and went by the name Josh. If you have any information, you can call the Smith College Department of Public Safety at 585-2490.

News **10/07/09** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield police need your help in identifying the man who robbed the Bank of America at 144 Main Street Monday afternoon. Sergeant John Delaney said that the suspect gave the teller a note demanding money and that he was armed. He got away with cash. He's a white male, between 5'6" and 5'8" in height, possibly in his early 20's, with short brown hair and clean shaven. If you have any information please call the Springfield Police Detective Bureau at 787-6355. Or you can "text-a-tip" from your cell phone to: CRIMES, Message: Solve then the information.

News **10/08/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Breaking news out of Chicopee where a police chase just ended in a crash, sending the driver to the hospital. Captain Thomas Charette told 22news, police spotted a suspected stolen car on I- 391 around 10 tonight. The driver refused to pull over, leading police on a pursuit through the city. It ended when the car crashed on Center Street near the Springfield/Chicopee line. It took rescue workers 20 minutes to get the 20 year old driver out of the wreck. His injuries are described as serious.

News **10/08/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Connecticut Police defused a potentially explosive situation after they found a Mercedes loaded with explosives in New Haven. Police made the discovery last night. They found pipe

bombs, rifles and propane tanks. Neighbors were evacuated and the bomb squad was called to defuse the devices. Cops arrested two men in their late 20's, and charged them with bomb-making and possession of explosives. No word what the suspects planned to do with the explosives.

News **10/08/09** **5pm** **: 30**

It was a sting operation meant to cripple gang activity in the region. Local, state and federal law enforcement announced the results of The Mason Square Initiative, a collaboration aimed at gangs in our area. At a news conference held at the U.S. courthouse, Michael Loucks, acting U.S. Attorney, announced the arrests and federal charges against nine persons in the Mason Square area of Springfield. They have been charged with various drug trafficking violations. All the individuals are associated with the street gangs The Eastern Avenue Posse, The Sycamore Street Posse, and The Bristol Street Posse. According to an affidavit listing the charges, the gang's income comes from distribution of crack cocaine and other illegal drugs.

News **10/11/09** **6am** **: 30**

A man is recovering after being shot in downtown Springfield overnight. Captain Eugene Dexheimer told 22News the shooting happened here at the corner of Dwight and Hillman Streets just before 1 am. The victim was shot five times in the arms, chest, back and upper abdominal area. Investigators did not find any shell casings following the shooting, which is leading them to believe a revolver may have been used. This is a busy area on a Saturday night and there were several people in the area at the time. Captain Dexheimer says investigators are having a hard time getting information from eyewitnesses. Police are searching for two Hispanic men who were in a newer model white car with a sunroof. Detectives say there are security cameras at the old SIS building but it's not clear if they captured any of the violence. The victim is currently at Baystate Medical Center in stable condition.

News **10/11/09** **9am** **: 30**

Another man is in the hospital after an early morning shooting in the Hollywood section of Springfield's South End. Springfield Police Lieutenant Trent Hufnagel told 22News police couldn't find a gunshot victim when they got to 263 Dwight Street extension around 4 o'clock. Police found the victim minutes later in a car at Main and Harriet Street near Baystate Medical Center. Hufnagel says three people were watching the man as he headed toward his car when one person shot the man in the legs. No arrests have yet been made and no word on his condition.

News **10/12/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Springfield Narcotics Detectives seized more than 50 pounds of freshly harvested marijuana in the city's Liberty Heights section tonight. Captain Peter Dillon told 22News narcotics officers raided 57 Silver Street this afternoon, where they found five people pruning buds

from marijuana stalks. Captain Dillon said police discovered a sophisticated pot growing operation in the cellar. Dillon said police confiscated more than 50 pounds of pot, 300 oxycodone pills, \$5,000 dollars in cash and a shotgun. Police arrested 5 people including two residents of 57 Silver Street, Paul Cuco and Roxy Alicea.

News **10/12/09** **6pm** **: 30**

Northampton Police arrested almost 50 people this weekend on drug and alcohol charges. There were 24 arrests on Friday night and 25 arrests on Saturday night. Police confiscated over 600 individual hits of acid, 45 grams of cocaine, two nitrous oxide tanks, and \$2,000 in cash. In addition to drug charges, 10 people were charged with drinking alcohol on the streets. And 27 people under the age of 21 were busted for possession of alcohol. Local residents said they are surprised by the volume of arrests, but not by the nature of the problem.

News **10/12/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Springfield police have nabbed three suspected gang members for allegedly selling drugs. Sergeant John Delaney told 22News police saw 17 year-old Christopher Collins, 20 year old Robert Owens, and 18 year old Karlana Pitters selling crack cocaine from their red Jeep Monday in the Mason Square neighborhood. The three were arrested and Delaney says police found a cigarette box containing crack cocaine inside the jeep.

News **10/16/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Tonight a young man lost his life in a tragic shooting and some residents here on the North End are demanding an end to this type of violence. Springfield Sgt. John Delaney told 22 News the shooting happened around 6:30pm in front of Christopher's Package Store. The victim was taken to Baystate Medical Center where he was pronounced dead. Some of the residents here on the scene that we spoke with said they are sick and tired of this type of violence happening on their block and they're looking for change. Police are still looking for the gunman. Sgt. Delaney told 22 News witnesses are cooperating. Police are withholding the name of the victim until the family is notified. Sergeant Delaney says detectives believe the shooting was drug related. If you have any information on the gunman's whereabouts, you can call the Springfield Police Detective Bureau at (413) 787-6355.

News **10/16/09** **11pm** **: 30**

A car dealership employee was kidnapped today during a routine test drive. The Balise Honda car salesman was taken on a wild ride around one this afternoon. West Springfield Police Sergeant Jeff Harlow identifies the suspect as 32-year-old Aleh Kot of West Springfield. Harlow says Kot took off with the car salesman in a 2010 black Honda Accord. He drove on the Mass Pike all the way to Stockbridge and dropped him off at the Exit 1 toll booth. Police won't release the name of the car salesman, but we do know he's okay. West Springfield detectives are still looking for Kot and his getaway car. He faces kidnapping, larceny, and assault and battery charges.

News

10/16/09

5pm

: 30

The Springfield Narcotics Unit arrested four Springfield men in an un-related drug raid at 56 Randell place and in front of 1 Allen Street. According to Springfield police Sgt. John Delaney the suspects were arrested after a lengthy investigation. Officers seized a large amount of crack, marijuana, ecstasy and more than \$2,000 dollars in cash. The men face drug possession and distribution charges. And they're also charged with dealing on a drug free school zone.

News

10/17/09

6am

: 30

Breaking news out of Springfield where police are looking for suspects in another shooting. This one happened last night just blocks away from the city's 15th murder. Springfield Police Captain Eugene Dexheimer told 22News officers found the victim inside a car riddled with bullets. He says it happened just before 3 am on Chapin Terrace. The 24-year old man inside the car was shot four times, once in the head. Captain Dexheimer says, right now, there do not appear to be any witnesses. The incident happened just streets away from the city's 15th murder. That happened Thursday night in front of Christopher's Package store on Main Street. Police are still working to solve that murder. Again, the victim in last night's shooting is at Baystate Medical Center. At last check, he is in critical condition. Anyone who knows anything about either of the recent shootings in the city is asked to step forward and call police.

News

10/17/09

6pm

: 30

A Springfield neighborhood now in shock after a young woman was shot several times through the window of a home. Then just hours later the suspect's house was hit with what appeared to be a fire bomb. A neighborhood fight over a television is what Springfield Police Lieutenant Tom Kennedy says set off a string of events on Wilmont Street Sunday. Just after 1:30 a-m, Lt. Tom Kennedy told 22News an 18 year old woman was shot several times through the window of this multi-family home. Sergeant John Delaney says investigators were able to track down the .22 caliber rifle used in the shooting. The suspect, 26-year old Daniel Horne, lives just two doors away. He was arrested and faces several charges including armed assault with intent to murder. As police officers were collecting evidence in his home Springfield Fire Department Spokesperson Dennis Ledger told 22News someone threw a Molotov firebomb at the house. Several officers were inside at the time; Sergeant Delany says it was in retaliation to the shooting. Another police sergeant put out the fire before it caused any major damage. The 18-year old victim in the shooting is in critical condition at Baystate Medical Center. No one has been arrested for the firebombing incident.

News

10/19/09

11pm

: 30

A stabbing at the University of Connecticut kills a school football player. 20-year old starting cornerback Jasper Howard was stabbed during a fight shortly after midnight this morning. Howard played in last night's game, in which the Huskies defeated the Louisville Cardinals.

He died at the hospital. Police say the fight broke out after a school-sponsored dance was evacuated due to a fire alarm. No arrests have been made. Tonight coaches, team members, and the entire UCONN campus are still in shock.

News **10/19/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Springfield has now logged its 17th murder of the year. The 18 year old girl who was shot several times this morning through a window at a home on Wilmont Street has died. According to Springfield police Sgt. John Delaney, the girl was taken off life support and died at Baystate Medical Center at around 5 pm this evening. Delaney says the victim was shot several times, including once in the head. Her death makes the third fatal shooting in Springfield in just four days. Only hours after the teen was gunned down the shooting suspect's home was hit with what appeared to be a fire bomb. A neighborhood fight over a television is what Springfield Police Lieutenant Tom Kennedy says set off a string of events on Wilmont Street Sunday.

News **10/21/09** **5pm** **: 30**

We have breaking news out of Springfield where Police arrested three people, seizing 15 guns off the streets. This comes after Springfield logged its 17th murder of the year Sunday. Three people were arrested: Jose Andino, Elvis Malave, and Gabriel Martinez. Springfield Police Commissioner William Fitchet told 22News his department has been working with the Federal Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Task Force on this investigation for months. Commissioner Fitchet said this is one of the most significant arrests of the year. Commissioner Fitchet said Jose Andino is a very well known Springfield gang member who "Trafficked" in weapons and sold these handguns to all the gang members in Springfield. This suspect has a very violent past and officers assigned to the "Task Force" have called him one of the most dangerous suspects in Springfield.

News **10/22/09** **11pm** **: 30**

A New Bedford man is facing a charge of animal cruelty after authorities removed two sets of feline remains and at least 15 emaciated cats from a squalid house. 28-year-old Ryan Adams was summoned to court after police, firefighters and animal control officers wearing hazardous material suits found heaps of rotting food as well as human and animal waste in the home that had neither running water nor electricity. The discovery shocked neighbors.

News **10/22/09** **11pm** **: 30**

A double shooting has a Springfield neighborhood gripped in fear and city leaders calling for backup. Mayor Domenic Sarno vows to end gang and drug violence on city streets even if it means calling in State Police. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney says it was a drive-by shooting just before six o'clock tonight on Orchard Street. One man was shot in the head. His friend was shot twice in the back, and once in the arm. Mayor Sarno told 22News he's asked Governor Patrick to send support from the State Police "cad" team.

News **10/22/09** **5am** **: 30**

Police and firefighters responded to another incident on Wilmont Street in Springfield. Sgt. Sean Arpin told 22news that a Molotov cocktail was thrown on the steps of 37 Wilmont Street around midnight. That's the house that Daniel Horne lives in, the man charged with the murder of 18 year old Brittany Perez. Another firebomb was thrown at the house on Sunday. Sgt. Arpin said only the steps caught on fire and no one was injured, arson is investigating. Daniel Horne is currently being held without bail.

News **10/22/09** **12pm** **: 30**

Eight people were arrested for selling crack cocaine out of a house next to Brookings Middle School in Springfield. According to Sgt. John Delaney, police gathered evidence during a two week long investigation through tips from neighbors and their new text a tip program. Narcotics officers raided a house at 452 Central Street around eight last night and arrested 7 men and one woman ranging in age from 20 to 41 years old. Police call the arrests 'significant' and say this was a premier crack house' in the city.

News **10/22/09** **12pm** **: 30**

A fire that destroyed tobacco barns in Windsor Locks, Connecticut was intentionally set. More than 100 firefighters battled the fire Monday. The barns that were destroyed were empty at the time.

News **10/23/09** **12pm** **: 30**

Police at the University of Connecticut say witnesses to the killing of football player Jasper Howard are being threatened with violence if they come forward with evidence. The threats are being made in internet postings which police are looking into. Authorities are still urging people to submit any potential evidence in the case, including videos or photos of the fight outside the student union on campus. Howard was stabbed and killed during the argument late last Saturday night.

News **10/23/09** **5pm** **: 30**

A suspect is under arrest in connection with Holyoke's third homicide of the year. Chief Anthony Scott told 22News that 18 year old Nathan Caballero of Holyoke is in the custody of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department. He was being held on a previous charge when an arrest warrant was issued in his name for the October sixth fatal shooting of 22 year old Raymond Diaz Junior of Springfield. Caballero will be arraigned on Monday on the new charges.

News **10/23/09** **6am** **: 30**

Violence continues on the streets of Springfield as another man was taken to the hospital after the fifth shooting in the city of homes in the last nine days, this time near a busy

intersection in the city's Hungry Hill neighborhood. For the fifth time in just over a week, a Springfield neighborhood is gripped in fear over a shooting. Springfield's gone to hell, and it's time to get out, many Hungry Hill residents now worried even to walk out of their homes. This time a 22 year old city man was shot right in front of the Boland Elementary School on Armory Street, glass from his blown out car windows covers the road and shell casings all over the ground. Springfield police have recovered a single handgun; it is believed to be that of the victim. Several evidence markers dot the scene in the middle of a pile of glass, right here on Armory Street. Witnesses told police they saw a silver car speeding away from the Armory shooting and that vehicle ended up sideways on Chapin Terrace right near the entrance to Baystate Medical Center. When police located the car, they learned it wasn't a suspect inside; it was the victim trying o get himself to the hospital. Springfield Police Sargeant John Delaney told 22News the victim is a 22 year-old man who may have been involved in a dispute at the Subway restaurant on Carew Street. Captain Eugene Dexheimer told 22News that the man is still in critical condition this morning at Baystate Medical Center.

News **10/23/09** **6am** **: 30**

Springfield police are also looking into another shooting last night, this one near the police station. Springfield police Captain C. Lee Bennett told 22news one person was shot inside an apartment at 116 Byers Street just before ten o'clock last night. Sergeant John Delaney told 22News the victim showed-up in the E-R at Baystate Medical Center with a bullet wound to the stomach. Delaney says his injuries aren't life-threatening.

News **10/24/09** **7am** **: 30**

Ludlow police need your help finding a 28 year-old man who allegedly robbed a convenience store at knifepoint. A news release from the Ludlow Police Department says that just after midnight a man stole an undisclosed amount of cash from the O'Connell's Convenience Plus on Center Street before fleeing on foot. Police have identified the suspect as 28 year-old Jason Delaney whose last known address was in Brockton. Delaney is a white male, about five feet seven inches tall, and weighing about 140 pounds. He has short brown hair and brown eyes. He's said to be armed. If you have any information you're urged to call Ludlow Police at 413-583-8305.

News **10/25/09** **11pm** **: 30**

A brazen Burger King thief had it his way and ordered up some fast cash in Hadley, robbing the fast food joint after threatening to harm every customer in the restaurant. The suspect walked into 353 Russell Street late last night. He handed the manager a note saying he'd harm everyone there if he wasn't given the money. Well, the thief in his twenties got it and then took off and hasn't been seen since. No one was hurt.

News **10/28/09** **11pm** **: 30**

A suspicious package was left by a man attempting to rob the East Bridgewater Savings Bank this morning. According to police, the suspect went into the bank, placed a suspicious

bag on the counter and then passed a note to the teller demanding cash. All bank employees were evacuated and traffic detoured around the area. Three area schools went on safe mode as a precaution. Turned out the bag was empty.

News **10/29/09** **11pm** **: 30**

It was a grocery store surprise that had one local catholic heading for the police station. A parishioner from the soon-to-close Immaculate Conception Church in Indian Orchard saw a man collecting money in front of the Boston Road Stop & Shop. He was holding one of the lawn signs she helped create to generate support to 'save the parish.' But Immaculate Conception only accepts donations paid directly to the bank. The stop and shop manager eventually asked the man collecting money to leave. Tonight she filed a police report in Springfield.

News **10/30/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Federal and state investigators stormed a Chicopee home this afternoon and put a stop to a major cocaine trafficking operation. A State Police canine team and FBI agents were seen going in and out of an apartment at 112 Elcon Drive in Chicopee. Mayor Michael Bissonette told 22News, one kilo of coke was taken from the apartment worth 35-thousand dollars. He believes one person who lives there was arrested. The FBI wouldn't go into further details about the investigation, pending an indictment.

News **11/04/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Police have arrested the owner of a Chinese Massage Parlor on Maple Road in Longmeadow for suspicion of prostitution. Longmeadow Lieutenant Garry Fontaine told 22news that police from several local towns and federal agents from the US immigration service conducted a sting operation. He said police found evidence that prostitution was taking place there. Lieutenant Fontaine also told 22news that several employees of that establishment may be in the country illegally. Police also busted several unlicensed parlors in Springfield, West Springfield, East Longmeadow, Hadley and Chicopee.

News **11/06/09** **12pm** **: 30**

A 19 year old man was shot this morning in Springfield. It happened just before ten near 1 Allen Street. That's where Police found the victim who had been shot in the back and in the abdomen. According to a news release from Sgt. John Delaney police were alerted by their shot-spotter system. According to Sgt. Delaney witnesses said that two vehicles were involved and it could be a dispute between two gangs. Police are looking for a teal colored Malibu with four black males inside and a man who fled on foot. The condition of the victim isn't known at this time. Because of the shooting the Brookings Schools, was in lockdown from 10 o'clock to 11 o'clock.

News **11/08/09** **7am** **: 30**

A Springfield man is recovering at Baystate Medical Center after he ran into the Holyoke police station with a gunshot wound to the leg. Holyoke Police Sergeant Richard Stewart told 22News 26 year-old Edwin Rivera was shot in the leg at Elm and Appleton Streets early this morning. Stewart says he then ran into the Holyoke Police Station which is five blocks away. No word yet on Rivera's condition.

News **11/10/09** **5pm** **: 30**

A Holyoke man is being held on 50-thousand dollars bail in connection with a home invasion. 27 year old Avon Bethel was arrested late last night. According to Holyoke Police Chief Anthony Scott, Bethel is accused of breaking into a home on Oak Street, and assaulting two women in the home. Bethel allegedly pointed a gun at the victims and threatened to kill them. Another suspect remains at large.

News **11/13/09** **5am** **: 30**

Springfield overnight, when a one year old child was left unattended in a running car, the situation became worse when the vehicle was then stolen with the baby inside. Springfield Sgt. Brian Manley told 22news that the 1 year old boy was left in an unattended running car in front of the Laundromax on Allen Street around 10:30 last night. The car was then stolen and police began to put out an amber alert for the child. Sgt. Manley said the car was found about an hour later behind the Touch of Garlic restaurant on White Street with the child inside. The baby appears to be ok police are still looking for suspects.

News **11/15/09** **6pm** **: 30**

A stolen car out of a Westfield couple's driveway led police on a wild chase. Southwick police Sgt. Kirk Sanders told 22news that a man went outside to warm up his pickup truck because his wife was having a medical emergency when someone stole it. Police chased the truck at one point the female passenger got out and was taken into custody. The suspect then crashed the truck on route 57 and ran into the woods. Westfield, Southwick, and Agawam police departments searched but did not find him.

News **11/16/09** **11pm** **: 30**

A father is behind bars after police say he tried to set his family on fire. New Haven police say Howard Stewart doused his wife and small kids with flammable liquid before setting his wife and their home on fire. A brave 12 year old ran from the home to get help. Stewart is being held on 1 million dollars bond no word on the victims' conditions.

News **11/18/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Police are looking for a man who held up a Citizens Bank branch in downtown Springfield. The robbery happened around two this afternoon at the Citizens Bank located at 950 Main Street. Sgt John Delany told 22news that the suspect requested a Spanish speaking teller.

He was directed to a male teller and motioned he had a gun. The robber described as a 30 to 40 year old Hispanic male fled with an undisclosed amount of cash.

News **11/18/09** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Three people are behind bars tonight after Springfield police arrested them in a drug bust. Sgt. John Delaney told 22news police raided their Sycamore street apartment last night. Police arrested Ollie Britt, Carlton Torres, and Nathaniel Lee in the sweep. The officers found 44 grams of cocaine, marijuana, ammunition and drug packaging material in their apartment on 57 Sycamore Street. The three Springfield residents have been charged with Possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, trafficking cocaine, among other charges.

News **11/18/09** **5pm** **: 30**

A Holyoke Doctor had his license to practice medicine suspended. The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine released a notice today saying Dr. Dhirendra Mohan represents an immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public. The Board alleges that Dr. Mohan performed inappropriate and clinically unnecessary breast examinations on two patients. Dr. Mohan is board certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease. Dr. Mohan operates a private practice in Holyoke and has privileges at Holyoke Medical Center. Go to our website at wwlp.com to see the entire report where you can see exact allegations.

News **11/20/09** **12pm** **: 30**

The state senator charged in connection with an accident that left one person injured will appear in court today. Cambridge Democrat Anthony Galluccio is scheduled to appear in Medford District Court to answer charges in connection with the Oct. 4 accident. Police say Galluccio was the driver of an SUV that rear-ended a minivan in Cambridge and allegedly left the scene. The driver was taken to the hospital. Police tracked Galluccio's license plate to his home. About 13 hours prior to that accident, Cambridge police gave Galluccio a ride home because he was allegedly too drunk to drive.

News **11/20/09** **12pm** **: 30**

New this afternoon, a 19-year old man has been arrested for assaulting a woman on Sumner Avenue in Springfield. According to Sgt. John Delaney, police arrested 19-year old Cody Santos after a 29-year old victim said she was assaulted. The victim told police she was walking to the store Thursday night when a man standing on the porch of 796 Sumner Avenue asked her if she would like a cigarette. She walked onto the porch and asked the man if she could use the phone to call her boyfriend. Once inside the doorway, the man allegedly attacked her and tried to rape her. The victim fought off the attack, ran to the nearby Sunoco station and called police. Santos is facing charges and will appear in court today.

News **11/20/09** **5pm** **: 30**

An expired inspection sticker led to the arrest of a 64-year old Springfield man on Drug and Explosives charges. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News Michael Roberts was initially pulled over around three this morning for an expired inspection sticker. But officers approaching Robert's pickup truck noticed what appeared to be a large explosive device inside the front windshield. According to Delaney a search of the vehicle and Roberts also turned up crack cocaine.

News **11/20/09** **6pm** **: 30**

West Springfield police have an arrest warrant out for this man. Michael Pacheco is considered armed and dangerous. Today, the West Springfield Police department Narcotics Bureau executed a search warrant Pacheco's home at 32 Cook Street. Detective Scott Manser told 22News that Pacheco is wanted on cocaine trafficking and firearms charges. If you have any information on Michael Pacheco's whereabouts, contact the West Springfield Police Department at 263-3210.

News **11/21/09** **6pm** **: 30**

A Springfield man left bloodied and beaten within an inch of his life overnight in Springfield. Three men reportedly jumped the victim on Commonwealth Avenue in the Forest Park neighborhood before beating and kicking him nearly to death. Just as the 33 year old man was being rushed to the hospital, he spotted one of the suspects in the crowd of onlookers. Springfield police spokesman Sgt John Delaney told 22News, 20 year old Courtney Jeffers was allegedly wearing steel toed boots. He was arrested and charged with assault and battery. The victim is being treated at Baystate Medical Center for serious injuries.

News **11/22/09** **7am** **: 30**

A Springfield neighborhood is calling for change after a police chase ended in a crash. The car slammed into a home overnight. Neighbors here told 22News they have seen several crashes here before. The latest one started as a chase from Chicopee and ended when the suspect's car slammed into a home here on St. James Avenue around two this morning. Sergeant Dan Major of the Chicopee Police Department told 22News the driver of the car failed to stop for officers and they began chase. They stopped that chase when the suspect entered Springfield. But the fleeing car did not get far; it lost control slamming into the home. Springfield Fire Department Spokesperson Dennis Ledger told 22News that following the crash, one of the passengers was trapped under the dash of the car and had to be taken out using the Jaws of Life. That person suffered serious injuries, but is expected to recover.

News **11/22/09** **7am** **: 30**

Holyoke police have taken another illegal gun off the streets. Holyoke police revealed in a news release that they arrested 32 year old Angel Almodovar early this morning. They charged him with carrying a fully loaded revolver. Chief Anthony Scott says over the past two

weeks, police have taken five illegal firearms, including three semi-automatic weapons off the streets.

News **11/23/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Police fanned out across Feeding Hills center tonight in search of an armed robbery suspect. The thug flashed a gun at the clerk at the Sunoco on North Westfield Street before taking off on foot just before ten tonight. Police gave chase in search of the man in the area of Agawam Country Club and Wagon Wheel Drive.

News **11/23/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Ludlow police are on the hunt for a masked man who robbed a Citizens bank at gunpoint this morning. Sergeant Thomas Foye told 22News, a man wearing a navy blue and red ski mask and a black and grey striped sweatshirt flashed a gun and demanded cash. It happened just before 10 at the Citizens at 645 Center Street in Ludlow. He took off in a purple or maroon Ford Explorer. Anyone with information is asked to call police.

News **11/23/09** **5pm** **: 30**

An alert convenience store clerk with a good memory has helped Agawam police identify the man who allegedly held him up at gunpoint Sunday night. Apparently the clerk at the Sunoco station on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills recognized the holdup man and knew his name. Agawam Detective Lt. Richard Light told 22News, police arrested 21-year-old Joseph Penna in downtown Springfield Monday afternoon. Penna reportedly wore a bandana when he pointed the gun at the clerk and stole more than 250 dollars. The homeless man was charged with armed robbery. Police had him in court today.

News **11/27/09** **5am** **: 30**

Three middle school students from Waltham have been charged with trying to poison their teacher. Police said the students tried to get their teacher to drink some type of cleaning solution by hiding it in her water bottle on Nov. 12. Luckily the teacher noticed the smell and didn't drink her water. A police investigation concluded that the two 13-year olds and one 12-year old put some sort of cleaner in the water bottle. All three students have been suspended indefinitely.

News **11/27/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Instead of waiting for early morning deals, one man allegedly broke into a Springfield appliance store for some steals. Springfield Police Lieutenant Kevin Wood told 22News officers arrested Jose Garcia outside Aaron's Rental store on Liberty Street. Lt. Wood said he and possibly some accomplices pried open a door, then stole a flat screen TV and small electronics. Garcia was hiding behind a dumpster when police arrived; Lt. Wood said he actually tried to attack the officers. The officers were not injured.

News **11/27/09** **6pm** **: 30**

A bullet proof vest may have saved the life of a Springfield police officer today or at the very least prevented him from being seriously hurt. That's after a burglary suspect allegedly stabbed him with a chisel this morning. Springfield police Lt. Robert Moynihan told 22News, the man had broken into the Knox market on Knox Street in the six corners section of the city. With help from the State Police Canine unit, they flushed the burglar out of the rafters and it was then according to Moynihan, 21-year-old Bernardo Reyes Valesquez attacked three officers. He's been charged with assault and battery and breaking into the food market.

News **11/29/09** **11pm** **: 30**

It was just after three o'clock today when a Springfield resident allegedly tried to steal an undisclosed number of DVD's from the FYE store in East Longmeadow. Workers say the woman had brought her own knife into the store so she could cut the DVD's out of the package that includes the security strip. According to East Longmeadow Sgt. Jeffrey Dalessio, a worker noticed the woman cutting DVD's out of their cases, confiscated the knife, retrieved the merchandise and called police. The clerk told the woman to stay, but she fled. FYE workers got her plate number and tracked her to Springfield. It's unclear yet whether a court complaint about the alleged shoplifting will be issued.

News **12/02/09** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Two broken jewelry store windows have some worried criminals are becoming bolder. Two stores just down the Street here on Main Street had their windows cracked or broken with a brick, in attempt to get at the jewelry. The fact that it happened on Main Street, under the bright street lights has some worried. The first attempted break in happened at Cleary Jewelry at 2:30 Tuesday morning. This window was broken; owners say an alarm may have scared off the burglar from grabbing anything. Then later that morning less than a block away, The Country Jewelry Shop was broken into, a small ring taken from it. While little was taken, store owners say they're disturbed by the boldness of the criminals.

News **12/04/09** **5pm** **: 30**

A Springfield man is in the hospital after someone stabbed him and then stole his car. It happened at 47 East Bay Path Terrace in Springfield just after three this morning. Springfield Police Sgt. Richard Labelle told 22news that a man was seriously stabbed before his Honda CRV was stolen out of his driveway. He was taken to Baystate Medical Center. The carjacker is still at large.

News **12/04/09** **6pm** **: 30**

Someone stole a statue of the baby Jesus from a nativity scene in a Palmer park. People come to look at the nativity scene in Hryniewicz Park, but there is no baby Jesus statue. It was stolen overnight. The Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce puts up the nativity scene

every year, with members putting in a lot of hours to put it up. The same thing happened a couple of years ago, the baby Jesus was stolen from the nativity scene.

News **12/06/09** **6pm** **: 30**

Drivers who don't lock their car doors are inviting thieves into their neighborhoods. And it's happening in many Western Massachusetts cities and towns. Wilbraham police Sgt. Robert Zollo released the bad news this weekend. Since the middle of last month, thieves have gotten into 26 cars, most of them unlocked. And the drivers, who made it easy by not locking their car doors, find their pocketbooks are gone, a GPS stolen and radar detectors missing. And thieves usually strike after it gets dark. This invasion by thieves mostly on side streets off of Main Street and Stony Hill road comes as a shock to some Wilbraham residents. According to Wilbraham police Sgt. Robert Zollo, people should report any suspicious cars in their neighborhoods, and by all means don't leave anything valuable in your car and be sure to locks the doors.

News **12/09/09** **12pm** **: 30**

New this afternoon, some scary moments for people at Macy's inside the Holyoke Mall. According to a Holyoke Police Department news release officers were called to the mall just before four yesterday afternoon for a report of a man with a gun inside Macy's. Two men were found inside the store. One was in possession of a gun. 24-year old Jeffery Libardi and 22-year old Bernard Collado were arrested.

News **12/09/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Holyoke police have rounded up 15 members of a gang after they allegedly made it known they wanted to shoot a police officer. The 11 men and 4 women arrested over the weekend face a variety of charges but none was specifically charged with threatening an officer. Holyoke Police Chief Anthony Scott said intelligence gained from dealing with street gangs found that the Lowell Street Posse wanted to shoot a police officer. Scott says the gang has been under intensified pressure from an increased police presence in the Appleton and Elm streets area.

News **12/10/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Springfield detectives are questioning a suspect after the robbery of a Carew Street Bank branch tonight. Springfield Police Lt. Robert Strempek told 22News that an unarmed white man grabbed some cash and ran away from the TD Bank branch at 1360 Carew Street. The heist happened at about 5:30 tonight. Lt. Strempek said the suspect was wearing a backpack, and no one was hurt.

News **12/10/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Natick Police say they used a man's unusual first name to help track him down after an alleged kidnapping attempt. 21-year-old Willian Viera is accused of trying to kidnap an 18 year old woman he met online. Police say the woman was able to call police from the car and indicate she was in trouble. Authorities say the woman jumped out of the moving car at the Natick exit on the Mass Pike. She gave police the suspect's unusual first name, which helped them quickly find his address and arrest him.

News **12/10/09** **12pm** **: 30**

A career criminal is behind bars after being caught on surveillance video allegedly robbing a Dairy Mart in Holyoke. According to a news release from the Holyoke police department 32-year old Kenney Javier Menendez was seen on a store security camera grabbing a pack of cigarettes and then stealing the cash register drawer after breaking into the Dairy Mart at the intersection of Lynn and Maple Streets. Menendez ran after the store's alarm went off. Officers caught up with and arrested him near the intersection of Elm and Essex Streets. Menendez has been arraigned 47 times on various charges in the last eleven years.

News **12/11/09** **12pm** **: 30**

A 20-year old man has been arrested in Holyoke with \$3,500 dollars in heroin nearly \$100 dollars worth of marijuana and about \$900 dollars in cash. According to a news release from the Holyoke police department 20-year old Fabian Davila was pulled over for double parking on South Bridge Street. Police allegedly found 350 bags of heroin, 9 bags of marijuana and nearly \$900 dollars in cash. Chief Anthony Scott says Davila has been arraigned ten times in two years on various charges.

News **12/12/09** **6am** **: 30**

A crash involving an alleged drunk driver has sent a police officer to the hospital. Sgt. Richard Bates told 22News the officer was making a routine traffic stop here on North Main Street in East Longmeadow just after 2 this morning. He had the car pulled over and was getting ready to get out of his cruiser when another car crashed into it from behind. The officer was taken to Baystate Medical Center; he was not seriously injured, but is still being held as a precaution. There was some pretty significant damage done to the cruiser. As for the driver who slammed into the cruiser, Sgt. Bates says he was driving under the influence. 32 year old Jonathan Shaw of East Longmeadow is facing a handful of charges, including O-U-I and negligent operation. Shaw was not injured in the crash; he is under arrest at this time. The driver who was being pulled over was not under the influence. Again, the officer is at Baystate Medical Center at this time but is expected to be okay.

News **12/14/09** **11pm** **: 30**

Hadley police are on the hunt for a brazen robber who allegedly punched and pulled a knife on a Target security guard before making off with a flat screen television. Officer Mitch Kuc (cook) told 22News the armed suspect, 43 year old Darron Sherokow tried making off with two televisions at Hampshire Mall Target just before noon. When the Chicopee man was

stopped by the security guard, he allegedly threatened to stab him. In order to make a desperate getaway, Sherokow allegedly pulled a knife on his friend and made him speed off. He's is facing charges of armed robbery, assault and kidnapping.

News **12/14/09** **5pm** **: 30**

A former cook for a Northampton restaurant has been sentenced to up to 15 years in prison for beating a co-worker with a crowbar during a robbery. The Daily Hampshire Gazette reports that David Rodriguez of Easthampton pleaded guilty in Hampshire Superior Court Monday to three charges including armed assault with intent to murder. The assault happened in February at Roberto's Restaurant on Pleasant Street. Rodriguez's lawyer told the Gazette that his client has struggled with drug addiction and was "on a binge" when the attack happened.

News **12/19/09** **6am** **: 30**

Two men are recovering in the hospital this morning after a shooting in the forest park section of Springfield. Springfield Police Lt. Norman Charest told 22News the two victims were walking here in the area of Dickinson and Oakland when at least two men opened fire on them. It happened around 12:15 this morning. Lt. Charest said the suspects fired at least three shots the victims, a 19 year old and a 20 year old. One was shot in the chest the other in the thigh. Both were taken to Baystate Medical Center. At this point detectives only have a vague description of the suspects, they say they are looking for two or three black men. Anyone with information is asked to call police or use their text a tip program.

News **12/19/09** **6pm** **: 30**

Holyoke police say a man wearing a black and white scarf covering his face held up the South Street branch of People Savings bank this afternoon. Holyoke Police Captain Allan Fletcher told 22News, the suspect wasn't armed. He took the money after he slipped a note to the teller. He then got away in either an Altima or Maxima. He reportedly had two accomplices waiting in the car which sped off toward Hitchcock Street. As far as a description of the bank robber, all we know is that he's an African-American about five feet ten inches tall.

News **12/20/09** **11pm** **: 30**

In Springfield, police are searching for a barber who apparently stabbed two of his co-workers during an argument this morning. It happened at 445 Main Street just before noon today at the VIP Cuts Barber Shop. Sgt. Chris Hitas told 22News, two men were stabbed and were initially taken to Mercy Medical Center and then transported to Baystate for treatment. No arrests have been made.

News **12/20/09** **5pm** **: 30**

It was a frightening trip home for one Springfield resident. One of the people who live in the building at 90 Westminster Street came back to their apartment while a break-in was in progress. It all happened in broad daylight at 3:45. The homeowner scared-off the burglar. So far, there have been no arrests.

News **12/23/09** **5pm** **: 30**

Law enforcement agencies make Hampden County history taking tens of millions of dollars in narcotics off the streets. Hampden County District Attorney William Bennett made the announcement at a news conference in Springfield this morning. He said a 6-month long investigation led to the dismantling of the area's largest drug distribution network. Eight alleged ring leaders were arrested. DA Bennett said they have ties in other states and even other countries. Detectives also seized 11 kilos of cocaine, 9-pounds of marijuana and cash.

News **12/26/09** **6pm** **: 30**

Another High School teacher has been arrested for immoral behavior towards a student and is now learning a lesson in the law. 32-year-old Manchester, Connecticut, teacher and track coach Aaron Kirby was charged with sexual assault and disorderly conduct. The Associated Press reported that the charges involve a 15 year old girl. It's alleged that Kirby gave the student a camera and asked her to snap nude pictures of herself. He's also accused of groping the teenager.

News **12/27/09** **7am** **: 30**

Police are searching for suspects after 8 suspicious fires in Northampton in just over an hour within a half mile of downtown. Right now officials are still searching for 2 people who may have been living in one of the homes as well as the person or people who may have started these fires. Northampton Fire Chief Brian Duggan told 22News 4 of the fires were structure fires, the other four were car fires. The biggest fire happened here on Fair Street, you can see flames just shooting out of the roof and windows. Chief Duggan said the first call came in just before 2am; the last call came in around 3:15, so all of this happening in just over an hour. There have been no reports of any injuries, but again officials are searching for two people who were known to live in one of the locations that have not been accounted for. Lt. Richard Rogalski of the Northampton Police Department told 22News they do not have a description at this point of the suspect or suspects. The ordeal had many people who live in the area nervous. Anyone with information is asked to call Northampton Police at 587-1100.

News **12/27/09** **7am** **: 30**

A Springfield man is under arrest charged with running over a Methuen man and then leaving him for dead. 51 year old Scott Callahan was killed on Christmas Eve while walking on the road by an alleged drunken driver. A Toyota police say belonged to Arturo Cruz, Junior of Springfield was found near the crash but the 29 year old took off on foot. Callahan's mother is still coming to grips with the loss of her son and calls Cruz, a "coward."

News

12/29/09

6pm

: 30

Hadley police are asking for your help to find the man who robbed a local supermarket at knifepoint this afternoon. Officer Adam Bartlett told 22news that this man filled a carriage with food and other items and tried to leave the store without paying. A store security guard tried to stop the man, who threatened him with a knife. Police say the suspect is a man in his late 20s to early 30's. If you can help solve this crime, please call the Hadley police at 413-584-0883.

News

12/31/09

12pm

: 30

A 26 year old man has been arrested for breaking into the Springfield Museum complex. Police were called to the Springfield Art Museum on State Street just after 4:30 this morning. They discovered a cracked window and open door, but no one inside. Another call indicated an alarm going off at the Springfield Science Museum. Capt. Charles Arpin told 22news police found the front glass doors of the science museum shattered and a suspect inside. Police arrested John Szpiech (spike) for breaking and entering and assault and battery on a police officer after the man tried to run and knocked down an officer.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Education during the 4th quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/06/09 6pm : 30

A plan to build a new Minnechaug Regional High School is one step closer to reality after residents in Wilbraham and Hampden voted in favor of it last night. A vote this month will determine whether future students will be in a new state-of-the-art facility within the next several years. People living in Wilbraham and Hampden voted overwhelmingly to pass a plan for a new Minnechaug Regional High School Monday night. The \$82,000,000 dollar plan will increase taxes anywhere from two to five hundred dollars in both towns, depending on the cost of a home. Superintendent of Schools, Marty O'Shea says building a new high school is more cost effective than revamping the old one. Supporters still have one hurdle to overcome. An override vote on October 20th still needs to pass. If that passes, construction on the new school begins in May of 2010.

News 10/21/09 6pm : 30

Some state lawmakers may be looking to change the age that students are allowed to drop out of school. Right now current state law allows students to drop out of school at age 16, sometimes 14 with special circumstances. A special state commission wants to raise the age students are allowed to drop out to 18. Studies show staying in school longer results in more students' receiving high school diplomas, and improve the chances of getting a job. Massachusetts drop out rate is 3.4 percent, below the national average of 8.7 percent. Local residents say they're hoping students stay in school longer, but that the issue is more complicated than a simple law change.

News 10/28/09 12pm : 30

There is a new model for measuring the performance on MCAS exams. State education officials have unveiled the new measurement model that provides a more complete way to assess student performance on the test, which is a requirement for high school graduation. Rather than comparing a particular age group to its peers from previous years, the new "growth model" measures students and districts against themselves from year to year.

News 11/25/09 5pm : 30

State education officials are investigating whether a Springfield charter school that significantly improved its MCAS scores violated testing rules. According to the Associate Press, The Robert Hughes Academy showed an unusually large improvement last spring compared with other schools. School Principal Janet Henry says two teachers accused her of telling them to have student's re-check their work on the MCAS, which would violate state

rules. She denied any wrongdoing by the school. School trustees have placed Henry on leave.

News

12/25/09

12pm

: 30

The principal of a troubled Springfield school has been fired after the state education chief recommended that its charter be revoked. The Republican reports that Robert Hughes Academy Principal Janet Henry was fired after state officials said widespread cheating helped the school improve MCAS test scores. Henry has denied any wrongdoing. She was placed on leave about four weeks before the board of directors fired her. The state board of education will vote in January on a proposal to revoke the school's charter.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Environment during the 4th quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/07/09 6pm : 30

A bill filed on Beacon Hill questions the authority of a state agency. Basically this bill would change the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program and remove red tape so roads can be built and homes can go up across Massachusetts. Western Massachusetts lawmakers, developers and college representatives packed a Beacon Hill committee meeting Wednesday. They want to change the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program. State Representative Cheryl Coakley Rivera told the committee the agency's acted inappropriately. Bill supporters, including WWLP General Manager and Vice President Bill Pepin, claim projects have been stalled because the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife is too powerful. HCC's been trying to provide students with another entrance to campus but they've hit several roadblocks. The Audubon Society told 22News the law in place now has worked for twenty years and there's no reason to change it. No vote so far. The Committee plans more research and debate.

News 10/26/09 5:30pm : 30

Springfield residents may be interested in a program that adds a little green to their property. 22News green team reporter Shiri Spear explains how local homeowners can plant free trees. The program is called "Keep Springfield Beautiful." The volunteer based program was granted \$10,000 from the city to improve certain neighborhoods. Those in Maple High Six Corners, McKnight, East Springfield and downtown sections of Springfield can apply for free trees. The process involves an application, review of the property to make sure it's suitable, and a dig safe inspection. Of course, the best part is the price tag.

News 10/29/09 11pm : 30

Today's heavy rains flushed oil into a canal in Holyoke. Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Przekopowski told 22news a Cabot Street factory was disposing of some old machinery in a dumpster when the rains flushed out the oil. The oil left a sheen on the water. The DEP was called in. Przekopowski says incident posed no danger to residents.

News 11/06/09 5pm : 30

State agricultural officials are seeking local volunteers in a battle against a foreign beetle infestation that could decimate local forests and parks. The state is looking for the public's help in the battle against the Asian Long-Horned Beetle. The Asian Long-Horned Beetle was first detected in the Worcester area in August 2008. The beetles bore holes in hardwoods, eventually killing them. They feed on 11 different species of trees, including Maple, Birch and

Willow. More than 25,000 trees have already been cut down in Worcester and surrounding areas to curb the invasion. So far, none of these beetles have been found in Western Massachusetts. But state officials aren't taking any chances. State Agricultural Officials are asking for your help to inspect local trees and look for the destructive insects. If you want to join them, head to Mom and Ricos on 899 Main Street in Springfield this Monday at 1:30.

News

11/08/09

11pm

: 30

The Patrick administration is backing off wood-burning power plants despite standing behind the renewable energy source all along. Criticism of the wood-burning plants has ramped up in western Massachusetts, where the administration has invested \$1 million to jump-start four proposed wood-burning plants including Russell and Greenfield. But they have irked some activists who fear they could lead to the clear cutting of forests while pumping more carbon dioxide into the air than coal plants.

News

11/23/09

5pm

: 30

Being green this Thanksgiving doesn't have to be big production. When you search for Thanksgiving ingredients, try to incorporate local products. It supports farms in your area. Plus, every mile that meal travels, adds up to fuel and pollution. You're bound to encounter cardboard and plastic packaging. Avoid the rubbish and make good use of the recycling bin. Big meals add up to mounds of dishes. Run the dishwasher on full loads only. According to the energy star website every time you turn it on, it takes up 5 to 13 gallons of water. If you're loading up the dishwasher try scraping and skip the pre-washing. Each sink full of dishes can waste 20 gallons of water. Using your own plates and silverware saves waste. But if you go the disposable route, look for product made with recycled or biodegradable material.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Health during the 4th quarter 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News

10/07/09

5pm

: 30

The swine flu vaccine has arrived in Massachusetts. Doses of the H1N1 vaccine are here. We have 500 doses right now. The first round of swine flu vaccines will go to healthcare workers on the front line. Tori Furnelli is a physician's assistant at Baystate Medical Center and one of the first employees at the hospital to be vaccinated. Those in high risk groups, including pregnant women, people who care for infants, anyone 6 months to 24 years old, elderly people, and people with respiratory conditions will also be eligible. But call your own physician to find out where and when you can get it. Nearly two million doses should be available in the state by early December.

News

11/19/09

6pm

: 30

A Holyoke Doctor has had his license to practice medicine suspended. The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine released a notice today saying Dr. Dhirendra Mohan represents an immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public. The Board alleges that Dr. Mohan performed inappropriate and clinically unnecessary breast examinations on two patients. Dr. Mohan is board certified in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease. Dr. Mohan operates a private practice in Holyoke and has privileges at Holyoke Medical Center. Go to our website at wwlp.com to see the entire report where you can see exact allegations.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Jobs during the 4th quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/12/09 5pm : 30

Today's struggling job market is taking a toll on our youth. The unemployment rate for those 24 and younger climbed to more than 18%. That's up from 13% a year ago. Studies find that young people who get stuck in jobs they are under paid and over qualified for may set the tone for the rest of their life.

News 10/14/09 6pm : 30

Job hunters flocked to Westfield State College looking for work and internship opportunities. The 14th Annual Criminal Justice and Non-Profit Career Fair hosted over 800 people considering careers in those fields. 74 local, state and federal agencies were there. While many think of law enforcement as police work, there are other sides to the business. And a well rounded education is key.

News 10/16/09 5:30pm :30

The unemployment rate in Massachusetts is now at its highest rate in 33 years. That's not good news for job seekers. It is really competitive to land a job these days. A little know how can increase your chances of finding one. At Future Works Career Center in Springfield, people continue their hunt for work. Job postings are down over what they were a year ago, but there's starting to be more jobs in certain areas. Some ways to boost your chances: network, upgrade your job skills, use career centers like Future Works where almost all of the services are free, and polish up your interviewing skills. All this just might help make the difference in a tough economy. And for a link to the Future Works Career Center in Springfield which contains job listings log on to our website at wwlp.com

News 10/20/09 5:30pm :30

The job market is picking up in the City of Homes. The state labor department says that Springfield reported a jump in employment in the month of September. The city recorded one of the largest increases in the state. But unemployment keeps climbing in other parts of the Pioneer Valley. The jobless rate rose one tenth of one percent in Greenfield and Amherst. The statewide unemployment rate rose from 9.1% in August to 9.3% in September.

News 10/22/09 6pm :30

Some much needed positive news on the local employment front. Futureworks in Springfield says job postings are on the rise. The career center's Manager of Business Services says

hiring activity is still 17%percent below last year's figures, but Kevin Lynn adds that business confidence is definitely improving.

News **10/28/09** **11pm** **:30**

Senate Democrats are pushing for action on a bill to extend unemployment benefits. A vote is expected soon on whether to take up the measure. The bill would provide up to 14 weeks in extra financial aid for those who will exhaust their benefits by the end of the year. For those living in the 27 states where unemployment is 8.5% or higher, like Massachusetts, it includes an additional six weeks of benefits.

News **11/03/09** **12pm** **:30**

Springfield is set to lose about 100 jobs as a major manufacturer of windows and doors closes their plant in the city. Harvey Building Products announced plans today to close its Springfield factory and move production to two facilities the company owns in Dartmouth, Mass and in New Hampshire. Workers at the Cottage Street plant will have the option to transfer to the other factories. Production is set to end on January 29th. The company says their decision was influenced by a slowdown in the housing market and the upcoming option to renew their lease. Harvey's Springfield warehouse will remain open.

News **11/19/09** **6pm** **:30**

The end of the year could bring on a lot of hardship for thousands of unemployed. After several extensions, their benefits may finally be running out. Like many of those who have lost their jobs, the process of getting unemployment benefits has been daunting. About a million people nationwide are waiting to find out if their benefits will run out at the end of the year. An emergency measure that extended benefits for 73 extra weeks expires come New Year's Eve. Kevin Lynn of the Future Works Career Center told 22News if congress does not authorize another extension, social agencies that are already struggling with budget cuts will see a dramatic surge in people needing their services. Even the slightest prospect of new jobs is something to hold onto.

News **12/01/09** **5:30pm** **:30**

There is some extra help on the way for unemployed Massachusetts workers who've run out of benefits. The state office of Labor and workforce development today announced additional extended unemployment benefits. The first batch of extended benefits will be paid December 15. In order to be eligible, you must be unemployed and not currently receiving benefits.

News **12/10/09** **6pm** **:30**

More families finding it hard to call them happy holidays, as jobless claims increase. Not only financial strains, but may be more challenging to land a job. Career Point, a career center in Holyoke is seeing big crowds. Labor department reports show the number of newly laid off workers seeking job benefits rose after falling for five straight weeks. So what should job

seekers do? There is a little good news hidden in the unemployment numbers. The total number of people receiving unemployment has decreased for 11 of the past 12 weeks.

News

12/23/09

6pm

:30

A tough time to be out of work, unemployment problems haven't disappeared for many, as many companies put hiring on hold for the holidays. Workshops were still full today at the Franklin County Career Center. The line for unemployment benefits was also the same length. Those who were waiting just a few days until Christmas say it's a tough time of year to be without the job. Even those who have a job lined up say it's hard to weather the holidays without security now.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Smoking during the 4th quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/01/09 5pm : 30

Get ready to pay more to light up if you buy your cigarettes in Connecticut. Starting today, Connecticut's cigarette tax jumped from 2 to 3 dollars a pack. Even with this hike it costs more to smoke in Massachusetts. In the Bay State, there is a 2 dollar 50 cent excise tax as well as the standard sales tax, bringing the total to about \$8.25 per pack. Now, the price discrepancy between Connecticut and Massachusetts is a lot less.

News 10/14/09 5pm : 30

One group is opposing a bill here in the Commonwealth that could regulate and tax the cannabis industry. Today the Main South Alliance for Public safety testified at the Commonwealth State house. The group is speaking out against legalizing marijuana here in Massachusetts. The proposed house Bill "An act to regulate and tax Cannabis" is getting resistance from opponents who say marijuana is potentially harmful.

News 11/19/09 5pm : 30

Today is the day to quit smoking for good! It's the 34th annual Great American Smoke out. The American Cancer Society says the best way to quit is to have a plan by choosing a date to either quit or decrease the number of cigarettes you smoke, and stick to it! Some smokers say it's not that simple.

News 11/19/09 5:30pm : 30

A state pilot program that helps low income people quit smoking has had dramatic results. People are kicking the habit at unprecedented levels in Massachusetts. Many folks took advantage of it and have been successful in their quitting efforts. 75,000 low income smokers have participated in a pilot program that has changed many of their lives for good. Across the board, there's been a 26% drop in the smoking rate as a result of the new benefit. The MassHealth program offers low income smokers counseling and medication at little to no cost, more than 4,000 people have signed up in Springfield alone. At the American Lung Association, the battle to get people to quit smoking has been going on for years, but they say this new MassHealth program is helping people who would not be able to afford treatment. They're finding out that the Medicaid program benefit has filled the gap with a very small co-pay and has broken down the barrier to afford in quitting smoking. What's more, the state Department of Public Health says heart attack hospitalizations are down 38%. Trips to the emergency room and complications during birth both dropped 17%. Statistics that can't

be ignored as the fight to get people to quit continues. For more information about the MassHealth program that helps low income people quit smoking, log onto wwlp.com